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REPORT OF FEBRUARY TRIP TO RITCHIE RANCH

On Sunday, February 10, many bird trailers from the Golden Gate Audubon Society turned out for this joint trip with the Mount Diablo Audubon Society. We had excellent views of cranes, swans, geese and many other species of both land and water birds. The following 66 species were noted: Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Am. Egret, Snowy Egret, Whistling Swan, White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Shoveller, Am. Widgeon, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, White-tailed Kite, Red-tailed Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Ring-necked Pheasant, Sandhill Crane, Florida Gallinule, Am. Coot, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Willet, Greater Yellow-legs, Herring Gull, California Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Mourning Dove, Belted Kingfisher, Red-shafted Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Scrub Jay, Yellow-billed Magpie, Am. Crow, Plain Titmouse, Common Bushtit, White-breasted Nuthatch, Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Am. Robin, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Myrtle Warbler, Audubon's Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, House Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, (Spotted) Rufous-sided Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, and Song Sparrow.

— Lee Stallcup, *Leader and Historian.*

REPORT OF MARCH TRIP TO MOSS LANDING

Thirty members and guests of the Golden Gate Audubon Society enjoyed the finest day in three weeks while studying the bird life at Moss Landing on Sunday, March 10, 1957. Explaining why the Black-bellied Plovers had no black bellies and the Red-backed Sandpipers no red backs (nor black bellies) taxed the ingenuity of the leader, as it was too early in the season for either species to show these breeding season colors. The following 68 species were seen at the designated area: Arctic Loon, Red-throated Loon, Horned Grebe, Eared Grebe, Western Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, White Pelican, Brown Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Brandt's Cormorant, Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Am. Egret, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Shoveller, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, White-winged Scoter, Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Red-breasted Merganser, Turkey Vulture, White-tailed Kite, Red-tailed Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Am. Coot, Snowy Plover, Killdeer, Black-bellied Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Black Turnstone, Wilson's Snipe, Long-billed Curlew, Hudsonian Curlew, Willet, Greater Yellow-legs, Least Sandpiper, Red-backed Sandpiper, Dowitcher, Western Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Am. Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Glaucous-winged Gull, Western Gull, Herring Gull, California Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Short-billed Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Mourning Dove, Burrowing Owl, Allen's Hummingbird, Red-shafted Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Violet-green Swallow, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Scrub Jay, Winter Wren, Marsh Wren, Am. Robin, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Audubon's Warbler, House Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Brown Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow, and Song Sparrow.

An extra bonus was enjoyed by seeing the following ten additional species enroute along the Hecker Pass road between highways 101 and 1: Red-shouldered Hawk, California Quail, Yellow-billed Magpie, Am. Crow, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Bewick's Wren, Mockingbird, Am. Goldfinch, Lesser Goldfinch, and Golden-crowned Sparrow.

— CARLYLE SATHER, *Leader and Historian.*

REPORT ON FEBRUARY TRIP TO SAN FRANCISCO BEACH

On Saturday, February 23, seven members met at Fleishhacker Playground in San Francisco despite an ever imminent threat of rain. The expected storm did not show up, however, so we started the day off by going out to the beach to observe the birds there during a period of strong south winds. Gulls and Sanderlings were the chief occupants of the beach under these conditions, but a small group of Snowy Plovers was found huddled on a high part of the beach while sand swirled along the lower spots below them. We then proceeded to the Cliff House, where we encountered 8 Surf-birds feeding

with a number of Black Turnstones on the rocks below us. After scanning this area, the group proceeded in car caravan around Lake Merced to observe some of the waterfowl there, most interesting of which was a pair of Cinnamon Teal near the south end. The following 54 species and estimated number of individuals were observed at these 3 localities: Loon (sp.?) 2, Horned Grebe 1, Eared Grebe 24, Western Grebe 65, Pied-billed Grebe 35, Double-crested Cormorant 2, Brandt's Cormorant 4, Pelagic Cormorant 2, Green Heron 1, Cinnamon Teal 2, Am. Widgeon 40, Ring-necked Duck 1, Lesser Scaup 1, White-winged Scoter 2, Surf Scoter 40, Ruddy Duck 300, Red-tailed Hawk 1, Sparrow Hawk 1, Am. Coot 200, Snowy Plover 8, Killdeer 1, Surfbird 8, Black Turnstone 10, Sanderling 32, Glaucous-winged Gull 2500, Western Gull 1500, Herring Gull, California Gull, Ring-billed Gull (few), Short-billed Gull, Heermann's Gull 1, Common Murre 1, Mourning Dove 1, Anna's Hummingbird 1, Allen's Hummingbird 2, Red-shafted Flicker 1, Downy Woodpecker 1, Black Phoebe 3, Com. Raven 2, Marsh Wren 2, Am. Robin 2, Water Pipit 4, Hutton's Vireo 1, Audubon's Warbler 2, House Sparrow, W. Meadowlark 3, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Pine Siskin 2, Oregon Junco 4, White-crowned Sparrow 50, Golden-crowned Sparrow 2, Fox Sparrow 2, Song Sparrow 14.

— CHARLES HINES, JR., *Co-leader and Historian.*

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

SCREEN TOURS: Applications and checks for tickets are now being received for the 1957-58 Audubon Screen Tours in Berkeley Little Theater at $3.50 per person for five lectures. Please make checks payable to Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc., and mail together with your name and address to Post Office Box 103, Berkeley, California. There are only a limited number of seats available, so to be assured of participation send in your application now.

COURSE IN BIRD STUDY: Mr. Howard Cogswell's course in "Birding By Ear" began on Sunday, March 24. The class is filled, so no more applications can be accepted.

BEGINNERS' COURSE: There are to be four field trips on Friday mornings, from 10:00 to 12:00, during April and May — two in San Francisco and two in the East Bay. These are primarily for beginners. Others may attend, but those unfamiliar with birds and other things afield will be given special attention. A competent leader will be in charge of each excursion. All places can be reached by bus or street car. Bring lunch if you wish. The locations are as follows:

April 12. Mrs. Roberta Long, leader. *Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.* Meet at Arguello Blvd. and Fulton St. at 10:00. Fuchsia gardens and Conservatory areas will be visited.

April 26. Mr. Arthur Myer, leader. *Codornices Park and Rose Garden, Berkeley.* Meet at entrance to the Park, on Euclid Ave. near Eunice St. at 10:00.

May 3. Miss Florence Plymell, leader. *San Francisco.* Meet at Fulton St. and 8th Ave. at 10:00. Trip to be through tunnel and across mall to the Arboretum.

May 17. Mr. Paul Covel, leader. *Lake Temescal Regional Park, Oakland.* Meet at southeast entrance to the park (Broadway Terrace bus, no. 59) on Broadway Terrace, near Landvale Rd.

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS: Six half scholarships, each for a two-week period, are being awarded for the 1957 National Audubon summer camp at Sugar Bowl in the high Sierra by the Golden Gate Audubon Society. Please urge any interested people who would use this knowledge in instructing youth groups to apply. Teachers, scout and camp-fire leaders are especially desired. Call or write Mrs. Jean Nelson, 8183 Terrace Drive, El Cerrito, phone LA 6-8075. Application date closes May 1st.

JUNIOR AUDUBON CLUB PROGRAM: There are over 50 Junior Audubon Clubs in the Bay Area. Our society is sponsoring its second annual contest for them. This year it will be a group activity — a diorama showing farm or pond life in such a way that it suggests some aspect of conservation of our natural resources. Prizes will be awarded in two age groups, 7 to 10 years and 11 to 14 years. Outstanding conservationists will be the judges. The finals of the contest will be held at Scout Headquarters at 11th and Alice Streets in Oakland on Saturday morning, April 27, during Audubon Week.

FIELD TRIPS FOR JUNIOR AUDUBON CLUBS: Mr. David Farrow, assistant park naturalist for the City of Oakland, is conducting a series of three Saturday field trips for Junior Clubs. The first and second trips took place in March. The third and last of the series will be held at Lake Merritt at 10:30 a.m. on April 6. The meeting place is the Rotary Natural Science Center, Parkview Dr. near Perkins St.

The education committee welcomes any suggestions from our members and will greet with open arms all volunteer workers.

— Myra J. Browne, *Education Committee Chairman.*

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our society: from Berkeley, Mrs. R. R. Chaffee and Miss May Dornin; from Oakland, Mrs. S. B. Weld and Mr. R. Roy Johnson; from San Francisco, Mrs. Lois Willard and Miss Alice S. Kavanaugh.

— Jean L. Dunham, M.D., *Membership Chairman.*

EDITOR'S NOTE

Due to increased pressure of other obligations it has been necessary for me to resign as Editor of "The Gull", effective following publication of this issue. The several persons contacted either by me or by president Covel in hopes of obtaining a replacement this month seem to be equally thoroughly occupied. Somewhere among our large membership there *must be* one or more persons who can type at least adequately for the once a month job of preparing copy for the printer and who would be willing to devote the 3 to 5 hours per month to this quite important function of our society. The work of the editor is simply to receive the copy from the various sources such as committee chairman, the president, field trip leaders, and authors of special articles, then assemble and type it, and estimate the space it will take in printed form and add or

delete small portions as necessary to make it fit the size of our publication. This copy should reach the printer by 8 to 10 days before the end of each month, proof on the printing being then available for proof-reading about 2 to 3 days before the last of the month. No experience in proofreading is necessary, as it can be readily picked up with the help of a former editor or the printer himself.

Someone on the editorial staff (either the editor himself or someone to whom he could delegate this duty) should be familiar enough with the names of birds reported, and with the various names in use by different persons for the same species, so that such lists and records as are published can be in a form following whatever policy the editorial committee establishes for them.

If you can and would help to keep "The Gull" flying by doing some or all of these tasks, call or write Mr. Paul Covel, president of Golden Gate Audubon Society, 2860 Delaware St., Oakland 2, Calif., KE 6-4120.

— Howard L. Cogswell, *Editor.*

APRIL MEETING

The 475th regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 11, in the Assembly Room of the Main Library in San Francisco (Larkin at McAllister — no. 5 bus).

Mr. John Thomas Howell, Curator of Botany at the California Academy of Sciences, will be the speaker and will show the beautiful colored slides taken by Mr. Charles Webber of "The Lily Family of California." A most entertaining and informative evening is promised. Come and bring a friend, early if you can and see the flower show on the main floor of the library. It is the annual exhibit of the California Spring Blossom and Wildflower Association — to be held this year on April 10 and 11. (Hours: Wed., 1 p.m. to 10; Thurs., 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)

Note: April is John J. Audubon Month.

— Bonnie Smith, *Program Chairman.*

There will be a no-host dinner preceding the meeting, at 6:00 p.m. at the Whitcomb Hotel, on Market Street near the Library.

— Ethel L. Meyer, *Social Chairman.*

CHIRICAHUA MOUNTAINS LEADERSHIP OFFERED

On May 17 to 26, 1957, Harry and Betty Adamson (and others of the Mount Diablo Audubon Society?) will be enroute to and camping in the rugged Chiricahua Mountains of S.E. Arizona, an area replete with species of birds, plants, and other desert inhabitants which range into United States from Mexico only in this region. The Adamsons have offered to act as leaders for any Bay Area people who would like to visit the area at the same time to enjoy its wonderful scenery and bird life. All members of the party will, of course, be on their own insofar as expenses are concerned. It's easily possible to see 20 or 30 species of birds not found in central California on such a trip. Anyone interested should write or call the Adamsons at 995 Carol Lane, Lafayette, California, phone AT 3-2164.

FIELD TRIPS IN APRIL

There are, at the time of this writing (March 20), a number of vacancies remaining on the chartered boat trip from Berkeley and San Francisco to the Farallon Islands, on Sunday, April 7. Fare is $8.00. See full announcement in the March *Gull*. Reservations should be sent to the undersigned.

On Saturday, April 20, to BAY FARM ISLAND and ALAMEDA. Shorebirds in their spring dress should be abundant on the fast disappearing tidal mud flats and pickle-weed marsh. "Progress" is rapidly erasing this area from the American wilderness scene. See it before it is filled and paved. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at High Street and Santa Clara Ave., Alameda. Leader, Harry Adamson, 995 Carol Lane, Lafayette, AT 3-2164.

On Sunday, April 28, to McCOY RANCH, ARROYO MOCHO, S.E. of LIVERMORE. Few places on earth can equal the pastoral beauty of this foothill canyon in the springtime. Nesting species and late migrants should supply avian excitement aplenty. Meet in Livermore one block down South Livermore Avenue (to avoid parking problems) from the flagpole at 9:30 a.m. Allow one hour driving time from Oakland. Leader, Myra Browne, 2435 Ivy Drive, Oakland 6, TW 3-5469.

— LEE STALLCUP, *Field Trips Chairman.*
6227 Buenaventura St., Oakland 5

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.
Established January 25, 1917
A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

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Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Distribution Chairman. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Chairman.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National, $5.00 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately, $1.00 per year.

Visit the Pacific Coast Office of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY — 2426 Bancroft Way
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